United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Name of Assigned Judge or Magistrate Judge			Milton l	. Shadur	Sitting Judge if Other than Assigned Judge					
CASE NUMBER 02			02 C	R 511 -2.	DATE	10/9/	2002			
CASE TITLE				USA vs. Marcel Grant						
[In the following box (a of the motion being pr			[In the following box (a) of the motion being pre	indicate the party filing the motion, e.g., plaintiff, defendant, 3rd party plaintiff, and (b) state briefly the nature sented.]						
DOCKET ENTRY:										
(1)		Filed motion of [use listing in "Motion" box above.]								
(2)		Brief in support of motion due								
(3)		Answer brief to motion due Reply to answer brief due								
(4)		Ruling/Hearing on set for at								
(5)		Status hearing[held/continued to] [set for/re-set for] on set for at								
(6)		Pretrial conference[held/continued to] [set for/re-set for] on set for at								
(7)		Trial[set for/re-set for] on at								
(8)		[Bench/Jury trial] [Hearing] held/continued toat								
(9)		This case is dismissed [with/without] prejudice and without costs[by/agreement/pursuant to] □ FRCP4(m) □ Local Rule 41.1 □ FRCP41(a)(1) □ FRCP41(a)(2).								
(10)	this p	[Other docket entry] Enter Memorandum Order. Grant's motion to dismiss is denied. (52-1) At this point he remains scheduled to go to trial with certain of his codefendants on November 8, 2002.								
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(11)		_	 	r attached to the orig	inal minute order.]					
	No notices required, advised in open court. No notices required.						Document Number			
	No notices required. Notices mailed by judge's staff.					number of notices				
Notified counsel by telephone.			_			date docketed				
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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES	OF AMERICA,)		
	Plaintiff,	ý		
V.) .	No.	02 CR 511-2
MARCEL GRANT,)		OCT 1
	Defendant.	ý		7 2002

MEMORANDUM ORDER

Marcel Grant ("Grant"), one of the defendants in this four-defendant superseding indictment, has moved for its dismissal on the ground that its addition of a gun charge against him in Count Three (a charge absent from the original one-count indictment that was based only on a bank robbery¹) violated the asserted understanding pursuant to which Grant had made a proffer between the return dates of the two indictments. With his motion having been fully briefed, it is ripe for decision.

Essentially the United States' argument in opposition to Grant's motion (much akin to one made in motions relating to plea agreements) partakes of the principles of the civil law of contracts. When the Assistant United States Attorney sent

¹ Although the original indictment did not have a separate gun charge under 18 U.S.C. §924(c)(1)(A), it did allege that Grant and what were then his two codefendants had "assaulted and put in jeopardy the lives of bank employees and customers by the use of a dangerous weapon, namely a firearm." But the addition to the superseding indictment has real teeth, for the separate gun count mandates the imposition of a consecutive sentence of at least 5 years (or when the firearm is brandished, as Count Three alleges, a consecutive sentence of at least 7 years).



Grant's attorney a June 13, 2002 letter as to Grant's possible tendering of a proffer, its penultimate paragraph read:

This letter embodies the entirety of the agreement to make a proffer. No other promise or agreement exists between you or this office regarding the proffer.

That being so, there is no occasion to hold an evidentiary hearing to see whether Grant can better flesh out the asserted governmental promise to see whether he can sustain his essential claim of a breach of contract. Grant's position is that he made his proffer in reliance on an understanding that his cooperation was being solicited "in exchange for the Government's recommendation for a reduced sentence"--and the June 13 letter expressly negates any such understanding. Nor has Grant advanced any contention that any promise was made at the later dates when he gave the proffer (June 13 and June 19)--promises that could arguably have superseded the express caveat quoted above from the government's June 13 letter.

Accordingly Grant's motion is denied. At this point he remains scheduled to go to trial with certain of his codefendants on November 8, 2002.

Milton I Shadur

Senior United States District Judge

Date: October 9, 2002